

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA
Civil No. 25-cv-00048 (PAM/DLM)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS,

Defendant.

**UNITED STATES' MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR
A TEMPORARY STAY OF PROCEEDINGS**

Plaintiff the United States of America, through undersigned counsel, respectfully moves that the Court to temporarily stay proceedings in this matter for thirty days, until March 20, 2025, as provided herein:

1. On January 6, 2025, the United States of America initiated this Action by filing a Complaint against Defendant City of Minneapolis. The United States and the City subsequently filed a Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement (*Consent Decree*), along with a Memorandum of Law in support of the joint motion and proposed Consent Decree.

[Docket Nos. 3-4].

2. On January 8, 2025, Communities United Against Police Brutality filed an Amicus Brief in response to the Joint Motion [Docket No. 16].

3. On January 17, 2025, the Police Officers Federation of Minneapolis filed a Motion to Intervene in this Action [Docket No. 20].

4. On January 17, 2025, the City of Minneapolis filed its Answer [Docket No. 22].

5. The United States and the City of Minneapolis's Joint Motion remains pending with the Court. The Federation's Motion to Intervene also remains pending and briefing has not yet commenced. At this time, the Court has not scheduled a hearing date for either motion.

6. “[T]he power to stay proceedings is incidental to the power inherent in every court to control the disposition of the causes on its docket with economy of time and effort for itself, for counsel, and for litigants.” *Cottrell v. Duke*, 737 F.3d 1238, 1248 (8th Cir. 2013) (quoting *Landis v. N. Am. Co.*, 299 U.S. 248, 254 (1936)); *see also Armstrong v. Mille Lacs Cty. Sheriff's Dept.*, 112 F. Supp. 2d 840, 843 (D. Minn. 2000) (“As a Federal District Court, we have the inherent power to stay the proceedings of an action, so as to control our docket, to conserve judicial resources, and to provide for the just determination of the cases which pend before us.”) (citations omitted). “The party seeking a stay ‘bears the burden of showing that the circumstances justify an exercise of [the district court's] discretion.’” *Unity Healthcare, Inc. v. Cty. of Hennepin*, No. 14-cv-114 (JNE/JJK) 2015 WL 12977021, at *2 (D. Minn. Sept. 16, 2015) (quoting *Nken v. Holder*, 556 U.S. 418, 434 (2009)), *report and recommendation adopted*, 2015 WL 12978156 (D. Minn. Nov. 4, 2015).

7. “In determining whether to grant a stay, the Court can consider ‘(1) whether the stay applicant has made a showing that [it] is likely to succeed on the merits; (2) whether the applicant will be irreparably injured absent a stay; (3) whether issuance of

the stay will substantially injure the other parties interested in the proceeding; and (4) where the public interest lies.”” *Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC v. Johnson*, No. 17-cv-1101 (PAM/TNL), 2018 WL 5314945, at *1 (D. Minn. Oct. 26, 2018) (citing *Hilton v. Braunschweig*, 481 U.S. 770, 776 (1987)). “These factors are not rigid, and the court should make individualized judgments in each case.” *Unity Healthcare, Inc.*, 2015 WL 12977021, at *2 (citing *Hilton*, 481 U.S. at 777) (quotation marks omitted).

8. On February 5, 2025, the United States Senate confirmed the Attorney General. Pursuant to this confirmation, the United States seeks a temporary pause in these proceedings to allow its leadership to become more familiar with this matter. Allowing this brief stay, while two motions are pending and have yet to be scheduled for a hearing, would not substantially injure the other party, prospective intervenor, or amicus who are interested in these proceedings. The public interest weighs in favor of the United States’ receiving a temporary pause so that new leadership within the Department of Justice can be brought up to speed on this matter. Counsel for the United States conferred with counsel for defendant City of Minneapolis, who stated the City does not stipulate to the motion. Counsel for the United States also conferred with counsel for the prospective intervenor the Police Officers Federation of Minneapolis, who agrees with this request.

9. This is the United States’ first request for a stay in this matter and is limited to 30 days.

(Signature page follows)

Respectfully submitted,

DATED: February 18, 2025

KATHLEEN P. WOLFE
Deputy Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

REGAN RUSH
Chief
Special Litigation Section

CYNTHIA COE
Deputy Chief
Special Litigation Section
Civil Rights Division
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20530
(202) 514-6255
cynthia.coe@usdoj.gov

ANA H. VOSS
Chief, Civil Division
Attorney for the United States
Acting Under Authority Conferred
by 28 U.S.C. § 515

/s/Bahram Samie
BY: BAHRAM SAMIE (#0392645)
Deputy Civil Chief
KRISTEN E. RAU (#0397907)
Assistant U.S. Attorney
United States Attorney's Office
District of Minnesota
600 U.S. Courthouse
300 S. Fourth St.
Minneapolis, MN 55415
(612) 664-5630
bahram.samie@usdoj.gov

Attorneys for Plaintiff
United States of America